

THEATRE



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DRURY LANE.

SOLE LESSEE AND MANAGER - MR. F. B. CHATTERTON.

HARLEQUIN

AND

The Forty Thieves.

GRAND COMIC CHRISTMAS ANNUAL.

BY

E. L. BLANCHARD,

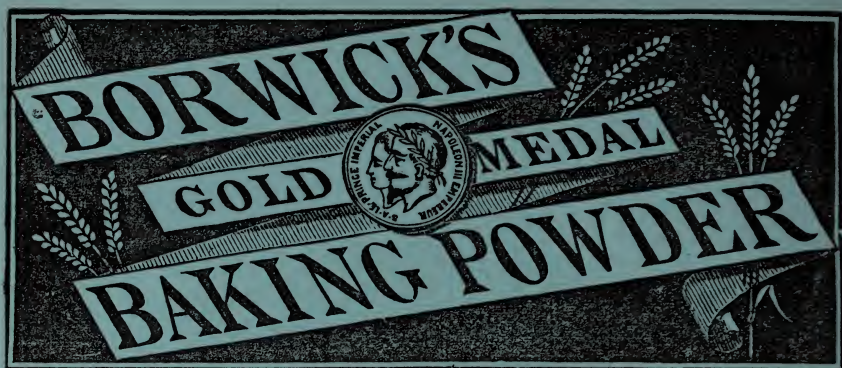
Author of "Hop o' my Thumb," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Little Goody Two Shoes," "House that Jack Built," "Robin Hood," "Little King Pippin," "Jack the Giant Killer," "Puss in Boots," "Beauty and the Beast," "Peter Wilkins," "Little Jack Horner," "King Humming Top," "Harlequin Hudibras," "Margery Daw," "Seven Ages of Man," "Dragon of Wantley," "Tom Thumb the Great," "The Children in the Wood," "Jack in the Box," "Aladdin," "Dick Whittington and His Cat," &c., &c., &c.

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AND
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E. L. BLANCHARD,

Author of "Hop o' my Thumb," "Sinbad the Sailor," "Little Goody Two Shoes," "House that Jack Built," "Robin Hood," "Little King Pippin," "Jack the Giant Killer," "Puss in Boots," "Beauty and the Beast," "Peter Wilkins," "Little Jack Horner," "King Humming Top," "Harlequin Hudibras," "Margery Daw," "Seven Ages of Man," "Dragon of Wantley," "Tom Thumb the Great," "The Children in the Wood," "Jack in the Box," "Aladdin," "Whittington and his Cat," &c., &c., &c.

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FORTY THIEVES

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tunes, which they divided equally between them. It might be therefore naturally
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With distant view of the ancient city on the banks of the
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Cassim Baba,	...	(his Rich Brother)	...	MR. F. W. IRISH.
Cogia Baba,	MISS HARRIET COVENEY.
Morgiana,	...	(their Slave)	...	MISS VICTORIA VOKES.
Abdallah,	...	(Captain of "The Forty")	...	MISS JESSIE VOKES.
Hassarac,	...	(his Lieutenant)	...	MR. WALTER VOKES.
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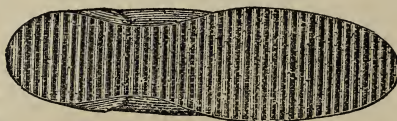
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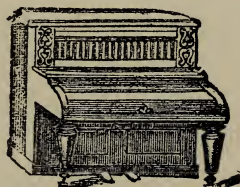
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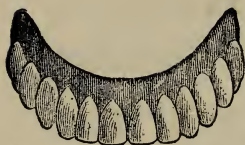
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WHO'D BE FORTUNE'S LACKEY?*

Air: "Where's the Slave so Lowly?"

—o—

Who'd be Fortune's lackey,
And pine for want of "baccy,"
When he might puff,
With joy enough,
Cigars of SMITH & MACKIE?
These "weeds" so aromatic
Make e'en the most phlegmatic
Believe they dine
In castles fine,
While starving in an attic.

Tobacco such as this, boys,
Is ecstasy, is bliss, boys,
In it we find
Such peace of mind
That nothing comes amiss, boys.
No human words can tell, boys,
How bright we feel and well, boys,
The magic glow
That charms us so
Is SMITH & MACKIE's spell, boys.

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In this disguise we are safe beyond a doubt ;
I have got the Forty somewhere here about.

(Blows softly whistle. The Forty separate themselves from the crowd and form a semi-circle, each number being displayed on a belt, from one to forty, when the robbers who have their dresses concealed, open their traveller's cloaks.)

To pay for what we take is needless fuss,
That which belongs to them belongs to us.
Things straight are wrong—the line of beauty's curved,
Isn't it Hassarac? Soft, we are observed.

(The Robbers break suddenly into dance, through which runs the chorus of "The Same Old Game." Movements of ABDALLAH and HASSARAC. At end of dance they mingle with the crowd, and ALI BABA appears from his stall.)

ALI Ill luck as usual. There, it's no use trying ;
I go on selling, no one goes on buying.
Ganem, my boy, trade's very flat.

GANEM *(advancing)* Yes, rather.

ALI We may as well shut up, boy.

GANEM All right, father.

(Stall closed.)

ALI Reduced to chopping wood and cutting sticks,
Fortune has played your parent curious tricks.
Our landlord wants his rent. I don't complain ;
But we must move.

GANEM Yes, cut our sticks again.

ALI For wares like mine folks go to other sellers.
But trees when felled——

GANEM Know you're the best of fellers.

ALI Ganem, my boy, draw near.

GANEM I'm drawing.

ALI Good !

I've a design.

GANEM Then cut it on the wood.

ALI The very notion that was in my head.

GANEM Well, that material might be used instead.

ALI At early dawn we'll seek the forest track,
And bring a crackling load of faggots back.
These in the market fetch good valuations.
One donkey 's left me.

GANEM No insinuations.

I'm with you, father, never mind what weather ;
It's an appointment, and we chop together.

But, Uncle Cassim's very rich, and shouldn't ---

ALI (*interrupting*) He'd see me starve first, boy, and then he
wouldn't.

(*ABDALLAH and HASSARAC, who have been loitering and listening, have, during this last speech, taken the opportunity of depriving ALI and GANEM each of a pocket-handkerchief—now required and anxiously sought for to conceal their emotion. With sympathetic courtesy they are returned by the Captain and his Lieutenant. ABDALLAH gives back handkerchief to ALI.*)

ABD. Excuse me. Is this your's, sir? Red and yellow ;

HAS. Dropped this I think (*returning handkerchief to GANEM*).

ALI and GANEM (*together*) A very civil fellow.

ABD. I thought it must be your's beyond a doubt.

HAS. You should take care, so many rogues about.

ALI (*to GANEM*) Though Cassim's rich for aid I can't rely on him.

ABD. (*to HASSARAC*) Rich is he, Hassarac we must keep our eye
on him.

(*ABDALLAH and HASSARAC withdraw and observe.*)

ALI Your good dear mother poorest was of spouses,
 He married one who brought him land and houses.
 Here comes my brother's wife.

GANEM Yes I suppose,
When up in life we show it by the nose.

(Enter COGIA BABA from house.)

COGIA Well, through the market-place a walk we'll take,
And see what kind of bargains we can make ;
A Persian shawl if marked in figures plain,
Might suit me—Oh ! here's brother-in-law again.

(*Encounters* ALI BABA.)

ALI I know I'm only a poor working man.

COGIA Here Morgiana, quickly bring my fan.

(*Music.* Enter MORGIANA from house with large fan. GANEM struck by her beauty and shows his love for her.)

MORGI. Here is your fan, my lady (*awkwardly handing fan*).

COGIA Well, you've said it.

MORGI. Yes ma'am, I've got it ma'am, but, but, a——

COGIA Spread it.

MORGI. Yes ma'am, but master hoped if things you buy,
You wouldn't spend a lot of money,

COGIA I !
Extravagant, who brought him all his riches,
I'll let him know the one who wears the——(*general
shock to bystanders*) which is—
Ahem! the merchant here and which the Jew.

(COGIA goes to stall for purchases.)

GANEM Ah ! aunty, glad to see you, how d'ye do?

COGIA *repels* GANEM *with great indignation and is met on the other side by* ALL.)

- COGIA Go away little boy, you are very rude.
 ALI Sister-in-law I hope we don't intrude,
 But times are very hard and rent is pressing,
 Assist me and accept a poor man's blessing.
 GANEM Uncle has got a lot, you'd never miss it.
 ALI Why don't my brother my poor dwelling visit?
 I have worked hard an honest crust to earn,
 While fortune has done him a friendly turn.
 COGIA Of course poor people never seem contented,
 I wonder why they ever were invented.

Air.—"Don't take any notice."

- ALI A spendid shop my brother keeps.
 MORGL. And I'm in his employ,
 GANEM Of ready cash you both have heaps.
 COGIA Impertinent small boy.
 ALI Although we live so very nigh,
 Yet him I have seldom seen.
 GANEM I see your game with half an eye,
 COGIA Whatever can he mean.

Chorus.

Don't take any notice he's only a nephew,
 Don't take any notice the lad may annoy;
 I know that his coat is a garment to grieve you,
 But pray take no notice he's only a boy.

(At end of song, enter CASSIM BABA from shop.)

- CASSIM What do I hear? what hard up fellow see,
 ALI Fellow! that, brother is hard up—on me.
 CASSIM Begone! A gentleman in my position,
 Couldn't of course, know one in *that* condition.

Have lately plundered various Turkish stations,
And otherwise committed depredations,
We must on all such doings put a stopper.

(ABDALLAH and HASSARAC, *during this, plunder both CADI and Guards.*)

ABD. }
and } Of course sir, very proper, very proper.
HAS. }

*Music. Stage darkens.—Merchants preparing for departure.
Laden camel crosses stage. The Thieves pilfering extensively.*

COGIA I have lost my parcels, or my sight deceives ;
CASSIM Help I've been robbed.
OMNES Those precious Forty Thieves.

*All appeal to CADI and the Guards, while ABDALLAH, HASSARAC,
and the Forty arrange for departure.*

Air—"What do you take me for?"

(Chorus only.)

OMNES Here take up every countryman,
And find what he has been at ;
Do they take us each for simpletons,
And think to catch a flat ?
It seems we've all been clearly done ;
By robbers of this set
Who now at last take off themselves
With everything they get.

*(CADI and Guards hustled off. ALI and GANEM dance off on one
side with love adieux to MORGIANA who goes off on the other
with COGIA and CASSIM, while ABDALLAH and HASSARAC have
the audacity to join in the general dance to the very last, when
scene changes to)*

SCENE II.

The Divan of the Genii.

(EUREKA, *Chief Feri and attendant Peris discovered.*)

EURE. While gloomy night around us still holds sway,
Here sisters dwell we in perpetual day;
In this bright region pass a peaceful time,
No shadow cast by sorrow, nor by crime,
All is so bright around when we are near,
Dark forms of Genii never can appear.

Invocation.—EUREKA.

Air.—"Silver Threads among the Gold."

Sister Peris here behold
Danger threatens as foretold.
Shine upon us with a ray,
Clouds dispelling far away.
Come, my sisters, fair to see,
Come, and give your aid to me.

(*The rest of the Peri Sisters respond to the summons.*)

EURE. But where are those we have summoned to our tent,
Who Truth and Fortitude should represent.

(*VERACITA appears.*)

EURE. Here's Truth at last.

VERAC. I hope if last not least,
Truth's difficult to get at in the East.

EURE. Where's Fortitude?

(*FORTITUDINA appears.*)

FORT. I am here arrived with these

Brave British sailors from the Polar Seas.

EURE. Why ye were summoned hither well you know.

TRUTH To stop some mischief going on below.

EURE. Truth there is spoken, every one believes.

FORT. And Fortitude has heard of Forty Thieves.

They laugh at law, at punishment they scoff.

TRUTH Yes, even with their booty stealing off.

EURE. Exactly, but we have learned their whole resources ;
Thanks to the chief of our detective forces.

Their cavern is protected by a Djinn,

A magic watchword lets the captain in.

Who knows that talismanic exclamation,

Becomes the master of the situation.

FORT. But where is he who use of this can make ?

EURE. I will unfold the plan I mean to take.

One Ali Baba here in Bagdad dwelling,

Goes forth at dawn some timber to be felling.

When in the forest with his faggots got,

As Dragon Fly I'll lure him to the spot.

There shall he learn the robber's words of wonder,

Explore the cavern and secure their plunder.

FORT. But how to justice shall you bring each knave ?

EURE. Through Morgiana, Cassim Baba's slave.

This girl with needful attributes endow,

From Dreamland, see I bring her to you now.

Appearance of MORGIANA from Dreamland.

MORGI. Oh, what delicious dreams in sleep I'm taking,
There really seems no hurry for awaking.

I am only a poor slavey, pray don't knock ;

Do let me sleep, please, just to six o'clock.

EURE. Know, Morgiana, you are in Spiritland,

With fairy helps, called Peris, near at hand.

They will assist you in the work before you.

MORG. I'm very much obliged, ma'am, I assure you.

EURE. How kind you are we all of us have heard,
 But more attractions shall be here conferred.
 With air that breathes enchantment Peris fan her,
 To charms of person add a grace of manner ;
 Prudence and courage to fulfil your task,
 And shrewdness all deception to unmask.

(Music, and effect shown of the power of the Peris.)

MORGI. New faculties of hearing, touching, seeing !
 Why, Morgiana's quite another being.
 I feel as if I had left my situation,
 And had a twelvemonths' finishing education.
 I really think that I could speak grammatically,
 And sing, I shouldn't wonder, operatically.

Song.—MORGIANA.

Air.—Grand Scena, "Romeo et Guilletta."

Oh ! who would not dream through the darkness of night,
 If Fancy created such worlds of delight.
 While music around us, weaves magical spells,
 The sleeper in Dreamland delightedly dwells.

(At end of song MORGIANA goes back to her cloud car.)

EURE. Our plan works well and now in dulcet numbers,
 Woo Morgiana back to dreamless slumbers.
 MORGI. Do let me go on dreaming as at present,
 Its only waking up that seems unpleasant.

GRAND BALLET OF THE PERIS,

And Scene closes.

SCENE III.

The Date Tree Grove.

(Melodramatic Music. Enter ALI with large Chopper, O. P. Looks anxiously round to discover the path, and is at last satisfied that he is on the right track.)

ALI Ah ! there's the forest which provides our load,
Come along Ganem, this way lies the road.

(Enter GANEM with small axe, O. P.)

GANEM A road that lies and goes on without ending,
Appears to me a road in need of mending.

ALI Boy, where's the Donkey ?

GANEM Oh, he waits my whistle,
I left him yonder dining off a thistle.
A graze will do him good, he's not built fleshily.

ALI He's always grazing——

GANEM Grazing shins especially.

ALI Ah, that reminds me, when—no not *when*—Why, ?
But can you guess conundrums ?

GANEM Well, I'll try.

ALI Why can a woodman never go astray ?
Because he always can inquire the way.

GANEM If that's a riddle then it's very bad.

ALI I know I thought it funny when a lad ?

GANEM You haven't got the proper answer quite.
Isn't it something about axing ?

ALI Right !
Of course, that's it, he "axes" to be sure.

GANEM Well don't you axe conundrums any more.
But come, takes too much time that Donkey's feed does !
We don't get dinners on the cheap like *he* does.

Now then Mokanna, if you've dined we're ready,
Quicken your pace a bit, sir, "Gee up, Neddy."

(Illustrative Music. Business.)

(Enter MOKANNA the Donkey, O. P.)

ALI Bless his old heart he tries to do a trot,
Of all my friends the only one I have got.

GANEM His playful ways may seem to need correction,
But that's his way of showing his affection.

(Tricks of Donkey.)

ALI Who could speak harshly to a creature mute!
Now *will* you come along, "you stubborn brute!"

(More tricks of Donkey.)

ALI This Eastern Question's settled by one blow.

(Donkey turns the reverse way.)

Is that your Ultimatum, I would know!

GANEM I'll threaten him, if you cause all this bother,
We'll sell you Dobbin, and we'll buy another.

(Donkey evidently don't believe it.)

Trio.—ALI, GANEM, and MOKANNA.

Air.—"The Two Obadiahs."

GANEM } If the old Dobbin tire, we'll a young Dobbin hire,
 } By the bye, there's a buyer very nigh.

DONKEY All my eye!

ALI } Says the young Dobbin buyer to the old Dobbin
and } buyer,

GANEM } I am dry Dobbin buyer, I am dry.

DONKEY So am I!

ALI { Then the two Dobbin buyers with a copper had a toss,
and { And the one who called out "woman" found it ended
GANEM { in a loss,
 { But not another coin could they either come across,
 { So said both Dobbin buyers we're agreed.

DONKEY (*winking his eye*)

Oh ! indeed.

(*Business at end of song, and GANEM and ALI lead off MOKANNA who manifestly means to have some fun with them.*)

(*Lively Pantomine Music. Enter COGIA BABA and CASSIM BABA followed by Black Boy bearing hamper of provisions for Pic-nic.*)

COGIA This is the place a Pic-nic to enjoy,
 Under the date trees spread the cloth my boy.

(*Business of Pic-nic.*)

Only to think, its just seven years to day,
Since we were married, how time runs away !

CASSIM And so does cash. You buy rich silks and choose
 them,

And then you like a stupid go and lose them.

COGIA I wouldn't lose the things on purpose *would I!*
If thieves did steal, I couldn't stop them *could I!*

CASSIM I gave the money for the dresses bought.

COGIA And all the money that you gave I brought.
But where's our slave? If near I'd have a shake of her,
She's altered so, I can't tell what to make of her.

(*Expressive Music. MORGIANA enters, her movements now graceful and her manner much more dignified.*)

MORGI. How soft the air ! how balmy is the breeze. .

COGIA Come Morgiana, help me out with these.

(*Taking Beef and Jar labelled "Pickles" from Hamper.*)

MORGI. Why should we wake ! how crushing is reality !
Pickles profane this picturesque locality.
Here I could dwell with rapture on each leaf,
And ne'er ask bounteous nature for cold beef.

(The rest have now sat down and began to eat. Black Boy at distance.)

COGIA Whatever ails the girl. Be moving faster,
Here take this plate o' victuals to your master.

(MORGIANA crosses and rhapsodises in centre, holding plate before delivering it to CASSIM.)

MORGI. A lump of mutton and a crust of bread,
Is it with this immortal man is fed !

CASSIM Come Morgiana, I say, this won't do.

MORGI. I thought it would'nt, slice ma'am, number two.

(Hands plate to COGIA for more meat. Business. COGIA to MORGIANA.)

COGIA In washing up the plates you'll find employment,
Wait till we've done, now this I call enjoyment !

CASSIM But then for all there's such a deal to pay.

COGIA You grow more avaricious every day,
The wealthiest man in Bagdad, and not any
Have seen you give in charity a penny.

CASSIM Get all ! Give nought ! a Turkish maxim, which
Explains the secret of becoming rich.

MORGI. *(with plate)* How wonderful is art ! what time to make it,
And yet one little moment serves to break it.

(Drops plate which breaks.)

(Hurried Music. Business. COGIA rises to correct MORGIANA, when Donkey returns rapidly across, chasing Black Boy off, ALI and GANEM return.)

ALI That precious Donkey's gone astray again !
 GANEM I'll run and catch him, father, you remain.
 ALI A Pic-nic party ! wonder what they have got.

(ALI examines pie curiously.)

GANEM Oh ! couldn't I eat something cold or hot.
 ALI Strangers, if you could spare what you don't heed,
 We both would thank you very much indeed.
 CASSIM (to COGIA) We never give to anybody, tell them,
 And when we've done with bones and fat, we sell them.
 COGIA Go away beggars, told you so before.

(General recognition.)

Why, bless my heart ! Here's brother-in-law once more.

Concerted Piece.

Air.—"Will you, won't you."—*Chorus only.*

ALI and } Do you, don't you, will you, won't you,
 GANEM } Give us just a something !
 COGIA } Shall you, shan't you, can you. can't you,
 CASSIM } Take for answer "No."
 MORGI. }
 ALL TOGETHER Do you, don't you, will you, won't you,
 only hear, suppose if—
 This is not a thing we like but all must go.

(MORGIANA contrives to smuggle a pie into GANEM'S hand, and goes off with CASSIM and COGIA on one side, while ALI and GANEM dance off on the other. The Donkey returning to take a prominent place in the group.)

(Lively business to close of scene.)

SCENE IV.

Enchanted Cavern in the Depths of the Forest.

(Fairy Music. Appearance of EUREKA and attendant Peris who are picturesquely grouped among the trees.)

EURE. Where no strange footstep has been seen before,
In this wild place the thieves their plunder store.
Be mine the task to bring yon woodman to it,
To learn the robber's trick and how to do it.
Two words unclothe the cavern of the band,
Which must be overheard ; you understand ?

(Assent of Peris.)

Now will I lure him from his occupation,
To Dragon-Fly assist my transformation !

(Peri attendants wave. Disappearance of EUREKA. Large Dragon-Fly seen to cross in direction P.S., and Peris vanish.)

Enter GANEM rapidly, P S.

GANEM I thought I had it ; oh, what splendid wings.

ALI, who has a gourd for drinking slung across his shoulders, runs on chasing Dragon Fly before him.

ALI. Oh, Ganem, here's the curiouset of things.
I've caught him—no I haven't—gone I vow !

(Dragon-Fly disappears at tree.)

Why here's a place I never saw till now.
How I have ever missed it seems a puzzle.
The donkey's loaded right up to the muzzle.
But from these trees some branches we must get.

GANEM Leave me to lop them, father—not tired yet.

(*Pantomime Music. ALI tries axe. Finds it blunted, sharpens it with stone. Tries it again. Unexpected sharpness surprises him, and ALI and GANEM begin to hew off a branch of tree near centre.*)

GANEM Capital wood for chopping !

ALI Look, boy, look !

Do you see a cloud of dust through yonder nook ?

GANEM Why, father, it's a troop of mounted men.

They skirt the mountain, now they pass the glen.

A moment pause beside the streamlet near,

Then on they urge again their wild career.

ALI Your eyes are sharp, boy. Do they come this way ?

What do they look like ?

GANEM Robbers, I should say.

Their horses seem to carry sacks of plunder.

ALI The frightful Forty Thieves, I shouldn't wonder.

GANEM Now they descend—unload their horses.

ALI Good !

They stop then on the borders of the wood.

GANEM No, on they come. Though marching but in slow time,

The troop will all be here in less than no time.

ALI Not due yet, boy ?

GANEM Duet ? A catch they'll try, sir.

ALI Then we'll get up a trio—it's much wiser.

(*As symphony of the following air commences, ABDALLAH, the Captain of the Band, enters at back to reconnoitre the ground. ALI and GANEM begin to ascend the branches unseen by ABDALLAH.*)

Trio.—ABDALLAH, GANEM, ALI.

Air.—"Don't Make a Noise."—*Chorus only.*

Don't hollo, boys, till out of wood you *may* be,

Don't hollo, boys, but draw it very mild.

Don't make a noise, extremely cautious pray be,

They do look awfully, awfully wicked and wonderfully wild.

(As ALI and GANEM reach the first branch, Captain gives signal for the troop of robbers to advance. March of the Forty Thieves heard as in distance and increasing in tone as the band approaches. By the time they enter ALI and GANEM are partly concealed among the branches. The face of ALI being seen very pale among the leaves. Enter the Forty Thieves bearing sacks labelled "Gold," and carrying boxes inscribed "Plunder." They are led by HASSARAC who ranges the Forty along stage. Picture.)

ABD. *(to HASSARAC)* None watched you?

HAS. None.

ABD. Then we can work the spell.

Till I have uttered it don't move.

HAS. 'Tis well!

ABD. Attention. "Open, Sesame."

(Gong. Cavern uncloses.)

ABD. All come!

ALI *(above)* I say, what's that he says o'me?

GANEM *(above)* Hush! Mum!

(March of the Forty into cavern with their plunder accompanied by ABDALLAH and HASSARAC.)

ALI Oh! I'm so frightened.

GANEM I feel timid, rather.

Don't knock your knees so much together, father.

ALI If they should spy us!

GANEM Hush! I hear a clattering!

They are coming back. Do stop your teeth from chattering.

(March resumed, and ABDALLAH, HASSARAC and the Forty return from cavern.)

ABD. All share alike. For honour there's occasion,
Among the gentlemen of our persuasion.

(Business. ALI drops his drinking gourd upon the head of HASSARAC, who, believing the blow to proceed from the first robber, indignantly resents it.)

ABD. To stop a caravan this night we go.
Are you resolved?

HAS. We are !

ABD. Then be it so.

I am going to close the cave. Once more, attention !
To magic words which no one dares to mention.
"Shut, Sesame."

(Gong. Cavern closes.)

Now back to mount your horses ;
The van must be attacked with all our forces.

(ABDALLAH, HASSARAC, and the Forty prepare to depart, and go off. The march resumed, and the air dies away in the distance as ALI and GANEM creep cautiously down.)

ALI The robbers have got off.

GANEM I feared they'd try,
To get off by clear proof of *Ali*—by.

ALI The rock has split upon their secret, though.
Let's "Open, Sesame."

(Gong. Cavern uncloses. Awful fright of both.)

GANEM Oh ! don't !

ALI Oh ! Oh !

(Finding nothing more happens they recover confidence and timorously approach the cavern.)

GANEM Oh, Father ! Here's a sight. Look here ! Behold !
Mountains of silver and great stacks of gold.

ALI We'll bring the Donkey here and then we'll stock its
Paniers with all ; but first let's fill our pockets.

(They bring from cavern large sack labelled "Money.")

GANEM But should they find us it would not be pleasant.

ALI Well thought of, boy, "Shut Sesame" for the present.

(Gong. Cavern closes.)

(Hurried Music. While ALI and GANEM are looking at contents of sack and filling their pockets. COGIA BABA, CASSIM BABA and MORGIANA come through the wood as having lost their way. COGIA with basket containing a can or pewter measure.)

MORGI. You have taken the wrong turning. Close inspection
Shows this road runs in quite the wrong direction.

COGIA It's Cassim's fault, his way he always misses.

(Runs against ALI BABA.)

I never saw a brother-in-law like this is.

CASSIM I've got no money, you must do without, so
It's no use brother, following me about so.

ALI Money! I'm thinking how I shall get through with it,
I have so much cash, I can't tell what to do with it!

GANEM Should you desire a palace I'll supply it,
If Bagdad's in the market, go and buy it.

MORGI. *(to GANEM)* And you are rich, while I'm a slave for life.

GANEM No, Morgiana, you shall be my wife.

ALI Here! what's this worth? give me a measure, quick.

(A handful of gold. COGIA offers can.)

COGIA I've left some fat in, something's sure to stick.

CASSIM A pint of gold! a fortune at the least.

(COGIA examines can with satisfactory results.)

COGIA An ancient coin! much valued in the East.

(Pockets it.)

CASSIM Dear brother, how delighted I'm to meet you.

COGIA Dear brother-in-law, how glad I am to greet you.
And little Ganem, too, my nephew dear.

MORGL Ah ! now things very different appear.

CASSIM How did you manage up this wealth to pick?

ALI Hush ! brother not a word, but—Klick ! klick ! klick !

(ALI points significantly over his shoulders, using by anticipation, Sir Peter Teazle's gestures in the "School for Scandal." The rest of the personages imitate with more or less knowledge of what is implied.)

CASSIM Klick ! klick !

ALI Yes, klick !

COGIA Whatever does he mean?

ALI You utter something and down goes the screen.

CASSIM A something?

ALI Yes, if you say— (whispering to CASSIM.)

CASSIM Ah !

COGIA (offering to participate but thrust aside) With pleasure.

ALI The cavern opens and reveals its treasure,
I'm going to bring the Donkey—come along.

CASSIM And I'll wait here to see there's nothing wrong.

(Music. ALI takes off GANEM, MORGIANA and COGIA who becomes very affectionate to all. CASSIM watches them off, then with melodramatic action, indicates his opportunity has arrived.)

CASSIM "Open, Ses—Sesame !"

(Gong and Cavern opens.)

Bless me what a lot !

(Is looking into Cavern when ABDALLAH and HASSARAC rapidly enter, followed by twenty of the Robbers at back.)

ABD. Quick Hassarac, I, my scimitar forgot.

Ha ! an intruder ? this plan is the shorter,
Cut him in halves and give the knave no quarter.

(ABDALLAH obtains scimitar from cavern and the rest with their sabres, chase CASSIM round stage, he eventually retreats into cavern, they follow and instantly return with his body cut in half.)

ABD. Shut, Sesame.

(Gong. Cavern closes.)

We'll nail him to the trees.

HAS. It likes me well ! (Flourishing sabre.)

ABD. No more such knaves as these.

(Rapid Music. The two divisions of CASSIM BABA are secured against trees on each side as a terrific warning to all intruders, and ABDALLAH, HASSARAC and thieves then rush off.)

(Quick Music. ALI, COGIA, GANEM, and MORGIANA return with Donkey prepared for load.)

ALI What sight is this ! poor Cassim's fate decided !
We always were unhappily divided.

MORGI. I have needle, thread and thimble—ere we sup,
If you will take him down, I'll sew him up.

(Concerted piece, accompanied by wonderful demonstrations of the vitality of CASSIM BABA in two pieces.)

Air.—"It's not for Dad's amusement."

ALI	}	He may be made a perfect man although he's sliced
and		in two,
GANEM		But take him altogether he was well enough to do.

- COGIA To cut him for a partner in this game should not be done.
- MORGI. We'll stitch him quickly up and soon I make the couple one.
- OMNES It's sure to please the boy—it much will please the boy,
We'll take him home, and stitch him up, and other means employ ;
Though awfully bad, they served the lad, he dances like a toy,
It's not for our amusement, but don't it please the boy.

(Preparation for removal of CASSIM. Donkey and everybody dances to chorus and scene closes.)

SCENE V.

A Street in Bagdad.

(Five houses with doors, one door practicable. Hurried music. Enter rapidly, disguised as merchants, ABDALLAH and HASSARAC, O.P.)

- ABD. Confusion ! Hassarac, our secret's known ;
Our cave is plundered and the knave has flown,
I'll plan a scheme which cannot fail to tell
The meaning of this mystery.
- HAS. 'Tis well !
- ABD. In this disguise of which we are not suspected,
We will discover how we were detected.
A crowd approaches and strange shouts are heard.
You have your steel ?
- HAS. Ha ! Ha !
- ABD. Enough ! no word.

MORGI. to GANEM How different now our meeting on this spot.

Dear Ganem, who is that? I like him not.

GANEM A merchant it would seem. I'll ask his name.

(ABDALLAH approaches.)

ABD. Good Master Ganem, I believe?

GANEM The same!

ABD. I thought so; though long years I have travelled far.

This must be Ali Baba, your papa.

ALI And of that name he's not ashamed at all,
Though once it only graced a cobbler's stall.

ABD. It *is* my friend! I am Cogia Houssain.

ALI Sure?

A curious codger! Have we met before?

(Crowd on each side looking on during this interview with great interest.)

Song.—ALI and GANEM.

Air.—"I Don't Know You."

Our memory fails in various ways
Whene'er we bask in fortune's rays;
And meet the friends of former days,
But you are wrong I'll show you.
I've lots of money at command,
And if I chose could do the grand;
But you must really understand,
Old Cogia, I don't know you.

(Chorus.—MORGIANA, GANEM, ALI, and COGIA BABA.)

We don't know you, we don't know you,
We know a lot of fellows but we don't know you.
Your I O U, your I O U,
Might suit some other fellows but we don't know you.

(*Business.* HASSARAC *returns and dances off with oil jars.*
 ABDALLAH, MORGIANA, GANEM and COGIA *return from house.*)

ABD. I thank you kindly, it is just the thing!
 Now all the other oil-jars we will bring.

(*Exit ABDALLAH.*)

(MORGIANA *chalks all the other doors thus I.*)

GANEM Why, father, did you have this useless lumber?

(ABDALLAH *returns.*)

ABD. (*aside*) I beg your pardon, I forgot your number,
 So all the doors are marked, I'll make a *new* one.

(ABDALLAH *makes a cross on ALI'S door, which is imitated by*
 MORGIANA *on the others. Now all seem to be chalked thus X.*)

MORGI. I think 'twill puzzle you to find the *true* one.

ABD. Thank you again. Good day, sir.

(*Exit ABDALLAH.*)

ALI Most polite!

GANEM My Morgiana doesn't see it quite.

COGIA I will prepare the court-yard for our guest.

MORGI. Do so, and leave me to arrange the rest.

(*Music.* *All go into house but MORGIANA who observes at side.*
 ABDALLAH and HASSARAC *enter.*)

ABD. I crossed the threshold! There was no mistake,
 But on each door a cross I didn't make.
 I'll chalk instead this time a good round O,
 Off to the Band and bring them hither! Go.

(*Exit HASSARAC.*)

(*Chalks O on ALI's door. MORGIANA repeats the same mark on the four other doors.*)

ABD. This cypher's one I only can explain.

(*Turns round and sees all doors alike.*)

Ought, ought, ought, ought, ought not to be again.

(*HASSARAC returns, and ALI enters from door.*)

ALI. Come along Codger, don't make any bother?

MORGI. This plan frustrated, I must try another.

(*ABDALLAH gives instructions to HASSARAC. GANEM and COGIA who now appears as a servant, enters from door of ALI's house.*)

ABD. The generous Ali shows us kind regard,
See that the jars are stored in his court-yard.

(*HASSARAC signifies it shall be done as requested.*)

(*General song and chorus.*)

Air.—"Blue-eyed Mary Ann."—*Chorus only.*

GANEM

Oh ! I'm a happy man, Ha ! ha ! ha ! ha ! ha !
I shall marry Morgian, Ha ! ha ! ha ! ha ! ha !
It's something to be said, that I such a beauty wed,
Such a charming little maiden as the clever Morgian.

ALI and others.

Oh ! he's a happy man ! Ha ! ha ! ha ! ha ! ha !
He will marry Morgian, Ha ! ha ! ha ! ha ! ha !
It's something to be said that he such a beauty wed,
Such a clever little body as the pretty Morgian.

(*All dance off through the door-way leading into ALI BABA'S house, and scene changes discovering*)

SCENE VI.

The Court-yard by Moonlight.

(The forty jars discovered. Oriental beds prepared for ALI and HASSARAC. Dim light in a lamp supposed to illumine Court-yard.)

(Music. Enter COGIA BABA with mop.)

COGIA Ah ! things have changed from what they used to be,
Now I'm the household drudge ! oh ! deary me !
Once I came down arrayed in silks and lace,
Now I'm come down to tidy up the place.
Well, all I ask I here shall get no doubt,
Board, lodging, washing, and my *one* day out.

Song.—COGIA.

Air.—"Dolly Mop."—Chorus only.

Its no use tears a dropping
Or a looking grim and glum,
So here I goes a mopping,
With a ri— ti— tiddle tum.

(After business with mop, COGIA prepares to make up and arrange the two beds.)

(Enter ABDALLAH, HASSARAC, and ALI.)

ABD. You are very good ! I hope these jars you pen away,
Don't inconvenience you ?

ALI Oh ! not in any way.

ABD. Only one bed to let in all the town.

ALI Oh, I can give your friend here a shake down.

ABD. You are very kind. Ha ! ha ! he little thinks,
Where Forty thieves are taking forty winks.

(*Exit ABDALLAH.*)

ALI You'll find the jars, right, Codger when you call,
The door's ajar but that don't count at all.

(*Calling after ABDALLAH. COGIA comes forward.*)

COGIA (*to ALI*) I'm much more humble than I was before.

ALI Sister-in-law, enough ! you mop no more.

(*They embrace.*)

Off, all to bed ! late up we mustn't stay,
To-morrow is our Ganem's wedding day.

(*Enter MORGIANA and GANEM.*)

MORGI. When Morgiana, Ganem takes for wife ?

GANEM This is the proudest moment of my life !
A joy beyond my hope within my reach is —

MORGI. Don't now rehearse your after-dinner speeches,

ALI Come, take the lamp. By moonlight we can see.

COGIA Bless you my children ! happy may you be !

ALI Off to your several chambers large and small,
It's nearly midnight, pleasant dreams to all !

(*MORGIANA takes lamp.*)

CHORUS. *Air.*—" *Belle of the Rink.*"—*Chorus only.*

We could do well with a wink,
But Ali thinks now we should go,
It's awfully jolly don't you know,
To hear the bells for a wedding clink.

(MORGIANA, GANEM, and COGIA dance off, leaving ALI and HASSARAC.)

ALI You see your bed. If you don't hear the bell,
 I'll call you in the morning, friend.

HAS. 'Tis well ?

(Both repose.)

ALI Our Eastern mode ! lie down, and there we are,
 I hope you'll have a good night's rest.

HAS. Ha ! ha !

(The "Ha ! ha !" repeated from thieves in first and second jars to the sudden discomfiture of ALI, but he thinks it must be an echo, and goes off to sleep. Melodramatic music.)

(Enter MORGIANA with lamp extinguished.)

MORGI. The lamp's gone out. It's luckily the case,
 We have forty oil-jars stow'd about the place.
 To borrow half a pint can be no crime ;
 I want so *very* little.

(As MORGIANA approaches jar, head appears.)

1ST ROBBER Is it time ?

MORGI. No, no, not yet ! I surely saw a head !
 It may be fancy ; Try this jar instead.

(Approaches second jar and head appears.)

2ND ROB. Is't time ?

MORGI. Not yet, it will be in a minute.
 Another jar and somebody is in it !
 This looks like mischief. Here goes for a third.

(Tries third jar—same results.)

3RD ROB. Come, is it time, I say?

MORGI. Hush! Not a word!

Ten minutes yet. Suspicion grows the stronger.

(Heads successively from all the jars.)

The good time's coming; wait a little longer.

(Movement and disappearance of heads to that suggestive air.)

MORGI. This oil has not been properly refined;
It seems the most explosive of its kind.
Stay, I remember a small jar upstairs,
That oil I'll boil and take them unawares.

(Exit MORGIANA. ALI, restless on his couch, and awakening from the effects of a nightmare.)

ALI I'm up a tree and Cassim he is more so.
Come, I say, friend of Coger's, don't you snore so.
When I cry "Open Sesame," it's because
I mean the cavern—I don't mean your jaws.

HAS. *(drowsily)* 'Tis well. Ha! ha!

ALI He's talking in his sleep.
Then once again in slumber I am deep.

(ALI prepares to sleep. Enter MORGIANA with steaming kettle of boiling oil.)

MORGI. The merchant's scheme before me stands revealed,
In every jar there lies a thief concealed.
Thus knavery comes to light. Their match they've got;
With boiling oil I'll give it to them hot.
That chalking is explained, and now I know
What meant the cypher!

(Pouring oil into each jar.)

ROBBERS *(variously)* Oh! oh! oh! oh! oh!

MORGI. From this my kettle each a share receives.
'Twill make you sing piano—Forty Thieves.
A little more and more, and now in me,
The heroine of domestic drama see !

(Exit MORGIANA melodramatically. HASSARAC awakes and whistles, first softly and then loudly.)

HAS. It's time !

ALI Time ! nonsense ! six hours for repose.
Why, friend of Codger's, I'm in my first doze.

HAS. *(starting up with large dagger)* And last !

ALI *(also starting up)* Holloa !

HAS. *(finding thieves quiet)* Ha ! treachery !

ALI Is it so !

Then, friend of Codger's, blade to blade we go.

(Rapid music. Desperate combat. At the end, ALI triumphant, and throws HASSARAC over the wall of the Courtyard. At the same time, the thieves, having turned lopsy-turvy, through the effects of the boiling oil, flourish their legs despairingly at top of each jar. Victorious ALI BABA in centre and scene closes on picture.)

SCENE VII.

The Grand Reception-Room in Ali Baba's House.

Lively pantomime music. Servants cross with various dishes, salvers, goblets, &c., for the wedding breakfast. Their movements quickened by Fitzflunki as chief attendant. When all have crossed from O.P. to P.S., enter, O.P., GANEM and COGIA. GANEM now attired as bridegroom and COGIA handsomely dressed with bridal favours.

GANEM I've scarcely slept a wink.

COGIA Young persons who
Are soon about to marry seldom do.

GANEM Strange dreams disturbed me——

COGIA So I should expect.
'Twas just the same with me I recollect.
But Morgiana will all dreams dispel.

GANEM Behold, she comes!

COGIA And all becomes her well.

(Enter MORGIANA in her bridal array. Mutual expressions of affection between GANEM and MORGIANA)

MORGI. Ganem, whatever you may see or hear,
However strange the strangest things appear;
Whatever stirring incidents may stir,
Whatever odd occurrences occur,
You promise me——?

GANEM (*emphatically*) I do!

MORGI. To love me still,
And take me for thy wedded wife?

GANEM I will!

MORGI. What here has happened it were wiser, rather,
To keep at present secret from your father.

(Enter ALI full dressed for the matrimonial ceremony.)

ALI *(aside)* Oh, what a night I have had ! Below he's hurled,
But Morgy mustn't know it for the world.

(Mutual congratulations.)

ALI Daughter-in-law, I greet you with a kiss.

(Enter rapidly ABDALLAH still disguised as before.)

ABD. What, all alive ? Then something's gone amiss.

ALI Ah, Codger, stay, we are going to have some sport ;
We've got a family wedding on, in short.
Where are my dancers ? Let them tread a measure.

GANEM Our guest will take refreshment.

ABD. *(accepting goblet)* Oh, with pleasure !

(Business with goblet. Symphony of dance music. ABDALLAH seated. Guests arrive. Refreshments handed round and dancers enter.)

BALLET.

(MORGIANA'S song and dance with tambourine.)

"Fascination," expressly composed by Julia Woolf.

(When MORGIANA dances up to ABDALLAH and discovers him, holding the dagger she has taken from him at his breast. Strong chord.)

MORGI. Know that the Forty perished by my hand.
And this shall end the captain of the band.

(Enter CASSIM. His body visibly sewn up.)

CASSIM He's very sorry, let him live to see,
What Morgiana's sewing did for me.

COGIA My husband all stitched up again, Oh ! bliss,
There never was a brother-in-law like this.

MORGI. You will reform, if I on you have pity.

ABD. I will, I'll bring out companies in the City,
Start mining speculations, and get sank
Cash in a new Co-operative Bank.

ALI. Through Morgiana then we are saved.

MORGI. Precisely !

GANEM Well, mine and other hands reward you ?

MORGI. Nicely !

(*Enter HASSARAC.*)

HAS. 'Tis well !

ALI What no bones broken by the fall ?

GANEM Didn't it hurt you ?

HAS. Ha ! ha ! not at all !

ALI Then nought remains but in the usual way,
With song and dance to celebrated the day.

General Chorus. Air:—"Song of Promises." Frederic Clay.

Everything now promises here to be the thing,
Ganem has already got the little wedding ring.
Others may excel him in the husband he may make,
But nobody can beat him in the wife he has to take.

SCENE VIII.

The Well of Truth.

(*Enter EUREKA with VERACITA and FORTITUDINA.*)

Thus years to come this tale will teach our youth,
Nought can contend with Fortitude and Truth.

(*Enter other characters of story.*)

Through you has justice reached those knaves who steal,
Through me the Peris their bright home reveal.

(*changes to*)

SCENE IX.

GRAND PAS DE VOKES.

Air.—Mr. W. C. Levey.

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WITH THE GATES AJAR.

PRINCIPAL PERI To other scenes now roam. This wand translates you,

Where Fancy beckons and where Fun awaits you.

With blyth companions may we all succeed,

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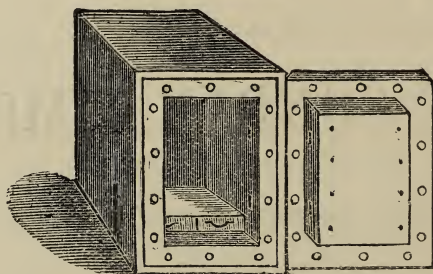
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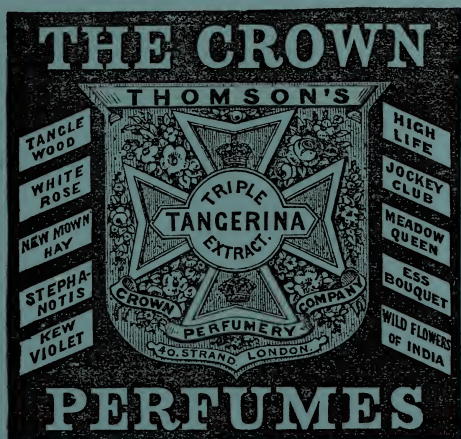
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